

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 180884  
ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-08 DOTE-00 CG-00  
SP-02 L-03 OIC-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FMC-01  
INR-07 NSAE-00 DLOS-09 OES-07 ERDA-05 INT-05  
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DOT - WALLACE

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P R 021814Z AUG 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM PRIORITY  
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PORG, EWWT, IMCO, SW, IV, NI

SUBJECT: ADMINISTRATION INITIATIVE ON MARINE OIL POLLUTION:  
DELEGATION VISITS TO CAPITALS

REF: (A) STATE 60283, (B) A-1345

1. A JOINT U.S. DELEGATION FROM THE DEPARTMENTS OF  
TRANSPORTATION AND STATE HAVE BEEN VISITING CAPITALS OF  
IMPORTANT SHIPPING COUNTRIES TO MAKE A PRESENTATION, AT THE  
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PAGE 02 STATE 180884

HIGHEST POSSIBLE MINISTERIAL LEVEL, OF THE U.S. INITIATIVES  
IN THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL MARITIME CONSULTATIVE ORGANIZATION  
(IMCO) AND TO ANSWER QUESTIONS HOST MINISTRIES AND  
MARITIME AUTHORITIES MIGHT HAVE ON THE U.S. PROPOSALS. THE  
U.S. DELEGATION HAS PREVIOUSLY VISITED PARIS, OSLO, MOSCOW,  
TOKYO, HELSINKI, COPENHAGEN AND THE HAGUE. IN EACH CASE  
THE VISIT WAS WELCOMED BY THE HOST COUNTRY MARITIME

AUTHORITIES INCLUDING MINISTERS, SECRETARIES GENERAL AND DIRECTORS OF DIVISIONS OF MARINE SAFETY, SHIPPING, SHIPBUILDING, AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION. DISCUSSIONS HAVE ALSO INCLUDED PRIVATE SHIPOWNERS IN COUNTRIES WHERE THE HOST GOVERNMENT HAS REQUESTED IT.

2. THE U.S. DELEGATION NOW PROPOSES TO VISIT STOCKHOLM,

ABIDJAN AND LAGOS DURING THE PERIOD BETWEEN SEPTEMBER 1 (ONE) AND SEPTEMBER 9 (NINE). THE VISIT TO STOCKHOLM WILL COMPLETE THE CIRCUIT OF THE NORDIC COUNTRIES, WHOSE ROLE IN IMCO IS VERY IMPORTANT (PER ERIKSEN OF SWEDEN IS CHAIRMAN OF THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION COMMITTEE). WHILE ABIDJAN AND LAGOS ARE NOT SIGNIFICANT SHIPOWNER COUNTRIES, THEY WERE CHOSEN IN HOPES OF GAINING SOME THIRD WORLD SUPPORT FOR THE U.S. PROPOSALS. IN THE LIMITED TIME AVAILABLE, THE DELEGATION WANTED TO VISIT AT LEAST ONE FRENCH SPEAKING AND ONE ENGLISH SPEAKING POTENTIAL SUPPORTER IN BLACK AFRICA.

3. DELEGATION CONSISTS OF REAR ADMIRAL SIDNEY A. WALLACE, OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION; WALKER A. DIAMANTI, DIRECTOR OF IO/TRC; AND A YET TO BE NAMED TECHNICAL ADVISER, U.S. COAST GUARD.

4. ADDRESSEE EMBASSIES ARE REQUESTED TO CONTACT  
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PAGE 03 STATE 180884

RESPECTIVE MARITIME MINISTRIES TO INFORM THEM OF THE OFFER OF THE U.S. DELEGATION TO PROVIDE BRIEFING AND ANSWER QUESTIONS ON THE U.S. PROPOSALS AND TO REVIEW DEVELOPMENTS TO DATE IN THE IMCO WORKING GROUP. THE U.S. DELEGATION REQUESTS MEETING WITH THE HIGHEST LEVEL POSSIBLE IN THE MARITIME AND ENVIRONMENTAL MINISTRIES IN AN EFFORT TO REACH POLICY MAKING OFFICIALS. DELEGATION WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR STOCKHOLM SEPTEMBER 1 (ONE AND 2 (TWO) FOR ABIDJAN AND LAGOS SEPTEMBER 5 (FIVE) THROUGH 9 (NINE).

5. FOR STOCKHOLM: DELEGATION HAS HAD PREVIOUS DISCUSSIONS CONCERNING THE SEPTEMBER ONE VISIT TO STOCKHOLM WITH PER ERIKSEN, DIRECTOR OF MARITIME SAFETY, NATIONAL ADMINISTRATION OF SHIPPING AND NAVIGATION, AND WITH MR. LIND-AFHAGEBY, DIRECTOR OF THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATION. PLEASE INFORM THEM OF THE U.S. DELEGATION'S OFFER TO VISIT (THEY WILL BE HELPFUL IN ARRANGING THE MEETINGS) AND RESERVE 3 (THREE) SINGLES IN FIRST CLASS HOTEL (PREFERABLY ONE WITH U.S. EMBASSY DISCOUNT) FOR NIGHTS OF AUGUST 31 (THIRTY ONE) AND SEPTEMBER 1 (ONE).

6. FOR ABIDJAN: (PLEASE SEE STATE 136668 AND ABIDJAN 6162) DEPARTMENT HAS NOTED EMBASSY'S ESTIMATE THAT DELEGATION VISIT WOULD BE WELCOME, AND HAS ALSO NOTED EMBASSY'S SUGGESTION THAT VISIT NOT OCCUR BEFORE "LATE SEPTEMBER OR OCTOBER" DUE TO IVOIRIAN LEAVE SCHEDULES. UNFORTUNATELY THE VISIT CAN NOT BE POSTPONED BEYOND THE FIRST FULL WEEK IN SEPTEMBER BECAUSE OF OTHER COMMITMENTS. THERE IS A POSSIBILITY OF GOING TO LAGOS BEFORE

ABIDJAN, BUT OTHERWISE THERE IS NO FLEXIBILITY IN THE SCHEDULE. EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO CONTACT APPROPRIATE MARITIME AND ENVIRONMENT AUTHORITIES, REMIND THEM OF U.S. PROPOSALS (REFS A AND B) AND OFFER VISIT OF U.S. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 04 STATE 180884

DELEGATION TO BRIEF THEM AND ANSWER QUESTIONS THEY MAY HAVE ON U.S. PROPOSALS IN IMCO. DELEGATION WILL WISH TO STAY AT HOTEL IVOIRE.

IN ABIDJAN DELEGATION WILL NEED THE SERVICES OF AN EMBASSY OFFICER OR CAPABLE LOCAL EMPLOYEE FOR FRENCH INTERPRETATION FOR THOSE IVOIRIAN AUTHORITIES WHO DO NOT SPEAK ENGLISH. THE OFFICER OR EMPLOYEE CHOSEN SHOULD HAVE FAMILIARITY WITH THE TECHNICAL TERMS (E.G., DOUBLE BOTTOMS, SEGREGATED BALLAST, INERT GAS, EMERGENCY STEERING, ETC.) USED IN REFS A AND B. IN OTHER CAPITALS EMBASSY OFFICERS WHO HAVE PARTICIPATED IN DELEGATION'S DISCUSSIONS HAVE FOUND THEM MOST USEFUL IN ESTABLISHING OR STRENGTHENING CONTACTS IN THE RESPECTIVE MINISTRIES.

7. FOR LAGOS: NIGERIA HAS BEEN PLAYING AN ACTIVE ROLE IN IMCO COUNCIL AND ASSEMBLY AND OFTEN SAYS SHE "SPEAKS FOR" G-77 OR AFRICAN GROUP OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. NIGERIA HAS ALSO INDICATED CERTAIN DESIRES TO ACQUIRE HER OWN TANKER FLEET. IT WOULD BE VERY USEFUL, THEREFORE, IF U.S. DELEGATION COULD GAIN THE SUPPORT OF THE NIGERIANS. EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO CONTACT APPROPRIATE MARITIME AND ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORITIES, REMIND THEM OF U.S. PROPOSALS (REFS A AND B) AND OFFER VISIT OF U.S. DELEGATION TO BRIEF THEM AND ANSWER QUESTIONS THEY MAY HAVE ON U.S. PROPOSALS. AS INDICATED ABOVE, VISIT MUST BE DURING THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 5-9 (FIVE THROUGH NINE). WE TENTATIVELY PLAN TO GO TO ABIDJAN FIRST, AND LAGOS TOWARD THE END OF THAT WEEK, BUT SWITCH MAY BE MADE IF BOTH ABIDJAN AND LAGOS AGREE.

8. FOR ALL: EMBASSY OFFICERS HAVING RESPONSIBILITY FOR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 05 STATE 180884

MARITIME AFFAIRS ARE INVITED TO JOIN THE DELEGATION AND  
PARTICIPATE IN ALL DISCUSSIONS WITH LOCAL OFFICIALS.  
PLEASE ADVISE BY PRIORITY TELEGRAM, REPEATING MESSAGES  
FOR OTHER ADDRESSEES, INCLUDING LONDON. CHRISTOPHER

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**TAGS:** PORG, EWWT, SENV, SW, IV, NI, US, IMCO  
**To:** ABIDJAN LAGOS MULTIPLE  
**Type:** TE  
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